

ANOTHER SPIDER-EGG PARASITE.

By L. O. HOWARD.

On p. 269 of vol. II, INSECT LIFE, I erected the new Proctotrypid genus *Acoloides* for a species which was named *saitidis* from specimens reared from the eggs of *Saitis puler*, a not uncommon spider, by Mr. Lawrence Bruner, of Lincoln, Nebr. I find another distinct species in this interesting genus among some spider parasites sent me by Mr. J. H. Emerton, and submit the following characterization. Mr. Ashmead, in monographing the Proctotrypidae, has found several other species which fit into this genus and which he will describe in his forthcoming work. None of these, however, have been reared, but it is quite likely that they will also prove to be parasites upon spider-eggs.

ACOLOIDES EMERTONI. n. sp., *Female*.—Length, 1.4 mm.; expanse, 1.5 mm.; black, shining, but closely microscopically punctulate; antennae brown-black, the scape pale at extreme base; legs, including coxae, brownish-yellow; abdomen mostly yellow, the second segment, lateral and apical margin of third and the following segments fuscous or black. Head very wide, more than three times as wide as thick antero-posteriorly; eyes large, rounded, whitish (after death) and pubescent; mandibles pale rufous, the tips black. Antennal club large, fusiform, as long as the pedicel, and funicle united; first funicle joint less than half the length of the pedicel, the other funicle joints transverse. Thorax convex, with two punctate lines in front of the scutellum, the latter semicircular, convex; metanotum very short, striated, bounded by a carina posteriorly, the angles produced into a minute tooth. Wings subhyaline, pubescent, extending beyond tip of abdomen; the venation dark brown; the marginal vein short, stout, very little longer than thick; the stigmal long, slender, ending in a small knob. Abdomen oblong oval, one-third longer than the head and thorax together, microscopically sculptured but lustrous, the first and second segments about equal in length, striated.

Described from 7 ♀ specimens, reared by Mr. J. H. Emerton from the egg cocoon of an unknown spider.

EXTRACTS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

Another Lead-boring Insect.

* * * I inclose a drawing of a piece of lead pipe which I have that was cut by the larva of *Monohammus confusor*, or from the description I think it was that insect. You will note that the borer ate through the wood and upon coming to the lead did not stop. The lead is 2½ mm. thick. A leak in the pipe led to investigation, when the hole was found, and the grub was also discovered. It was a new house, only recently built. The piece of wood and pipe both shown in drawing.—[A. J. Cook, Michigan, November 4, 1891.]

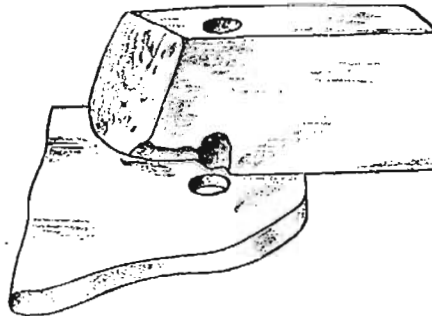


FIG. 23.—Lead pipe bored by an insect larva.